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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT HELPS NUMBER 2

SOME POPULATION FACTS AND TRENDS OF THE PAST TEN YEARS
WITH IMPLICATIONS FOR OHIO HOME DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS

1. The total population of Ohio on April 1, 1951, was 7,947,000 or 2,314,557 households. This represents an increase of 14 percent in population in the past ten years as compared to the national average of 15 percent increase. The population in the United States is increasing at the rate of about 2,000,000 a year. Most of the growth of population is due to the fact that births exceeded deaths during the period and there was a lower infant mortality.

Has the Extension program in your county expanded at the same rate as the population in adult work? 4-H work? What is being done or could be done to reach more people?

2. The Ohio farm population is 11 percent of the total as compared to 15.5 percent in 1940; rural non-farm population is 19 percent as compared to 17.7 percent; urban population is 70 percent as compared to 66.6 percent in 1940. Seventy of the 88 counties in Ohio increased their population.

How does or should these facts influence

- (a) Number of adults and youth reached
- (b) Kind of people participating
- (c) Program content

What is or should be done with urban and semi-urban homemakers?

3. The average size of household in Ohio was 3.3 persons in 1950 as compared to 3.6 in 1940. The number of households increased at a faster rate than the total population. Sixty-seven percent of the total population over 14 years of age were married as compared to sixty-one percent in 1940. There is some indication that the size of families is increasing, especially in the families formed during the 1940's.

Are we reaching the mothers of young children in our program? Are they having a part in planning programs? Are their needs different from those of long established homemakers?

4. The number of children under 10 increased 42 percent, and under 5 years, 62 percent. The birth rate during the 1930's was somewhat lower. The grade schools are crowded now and will be crowded even more. The wave of children of the 1940's is advancing toward the upper grades. Though only 15 percent of the families of the United States are living on farms, they are rearing 20 percent of the children.

We can expect a much bigger group of beginning 4-H members from now on. Do we also need to give increased attention to community facilities to care for this expanding group of children? e.g. schools, churches, play grounds, etc.

What is being done to emphasize maternal and child nutrition as the beginning point for establishing good dietary habits? What about clothing for children? Parent study groups in child development?

5. Age distribution in Ohio: For each 100 persons living on farms and rural non-farms, including towns up to 2500 population, we have the following distribution by ages:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Both Sexes</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Both Sexes</u>	<u>Females</u>
Under 5 yrs.	10.90	11.75	25-34 years	14.25	13.30
5-9 years	8.70	7.80	35-44 years	13.65	13.25
10-14 years	8.95	8.75	45-64 years	19.00	19.65
15-24 years	14.30	16.20	65 and over	10.35	9.30

Which groups are being reached in your county? Check your county survey summary, see enclosed, with these figures. What implications do the comparisons have as to the direction of the program in your county? e.g. What positive steps are you taking in continuing emphasis on good eating practices throughout old age? What are you doing with teen-agers to encourage formation of good food habits? Is any attention being given to other problems of old age? How does the percentage of homemakers you reach who are 25-34 years of age compare with the percentage in your county?

6. People move from place to place in Ohio. Residence in 1949 of the population one year old or more in farm and non-farm homes, is recorded as follows: 84-5 percent lived in same house as in 1950; 9.3 percent, different house same county; 5.25 percent, different county or elsewhere; not reported, .9 percent.

What attention is given to "movers" continuing to take part in the Extension program wherever they are? In adult work? 4-H? Moving frequently involved housing adjustments. How can we help here?

7. Women are an important part of the labor force. 28 percent of the female population of Ohio, 14 years of age and over, were in the labor force in 1950 as compared to 23 percent in 1940. These women lived as follows: 31 percent in urban areas, 20 percent in rural non-farm; 18 percent on farms. There is no record as to how many from the labor force are married, but with the increase in number of homes and percentage of marriages, this percentage is probably up. The percent of women employed in the domestic field dropped from 15 percent to 8 percent in the past 10 years.

How does increased employment of women outside the home affect program content and methods of teaching? What effect does this have on children? How can children be taught to assume more household responsibilities? With many working away from home, what is being done to emphasize the importance of selecting a good lunch?

See "Outlook for Farm Families for 1952" for other facts which have an influence in program development.

See the 1950 Census, Series PC-6, Number 8, Characteristics of the Population of Ohio, for more information about your county.

Note: Please keep this in your program development file. These population facts should be true for next few years.